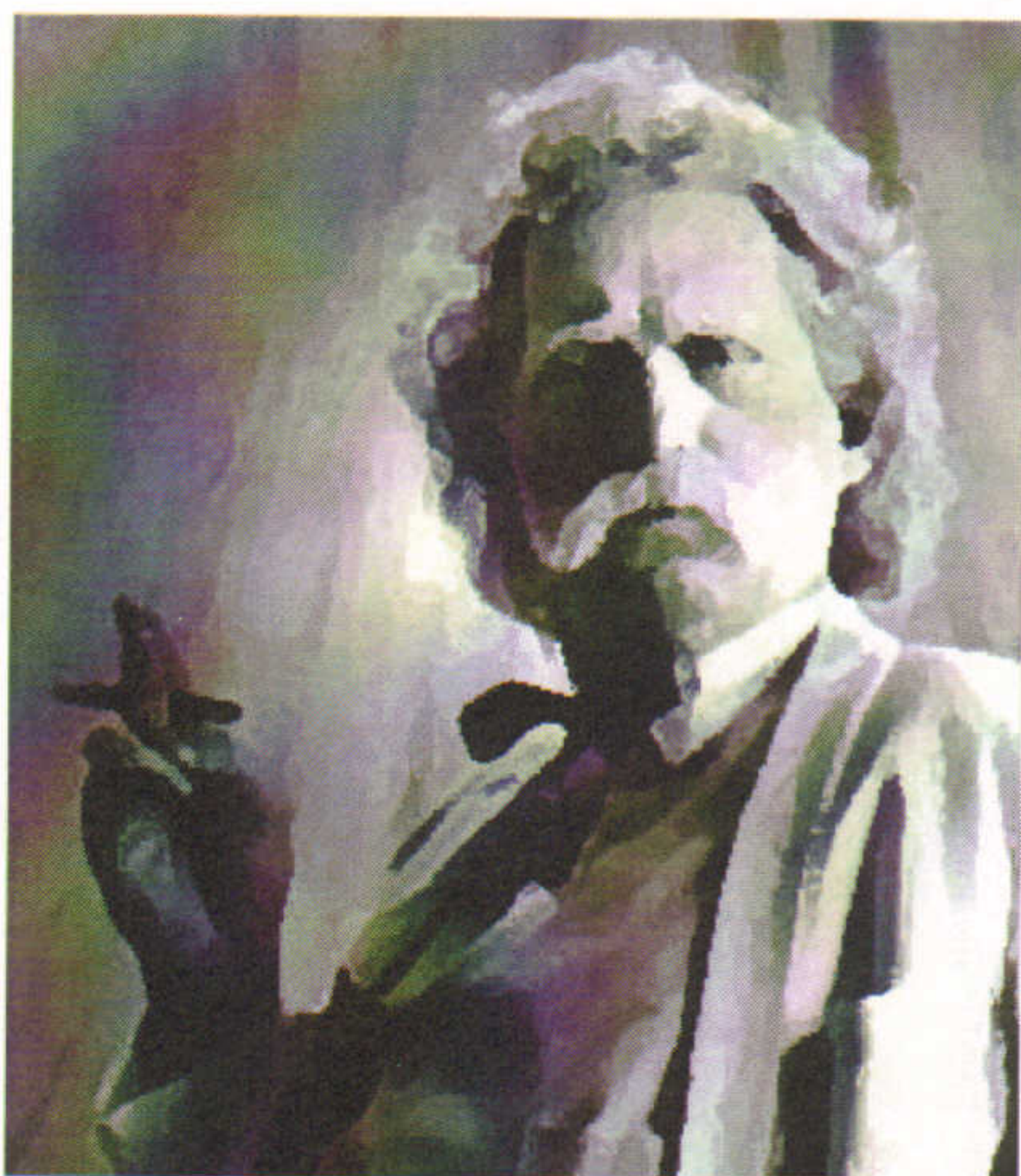

SHELTON STATE

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

and
The Shelton State Libraries
present

RON JEWELL IN "MARK TWAIN AT-LARGE"



LOCATION

Clemens' home, "Stormfield," in Connecticut

TIME

Early evening, after a sudden rainstorm

The play is performed without intermission.

September 2, 2010 • 7:30 p.m. • Bean-Brown Theatre

The Shelton State Libraries are proud to present this event as part of "The Big Read," an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and Arts Midwest.

RON JEWELL

In 1974, Ron Jewell first donned a white suit and tried on the likeness of America's greatest humorist, Samuel Clemens. It wasn't long before he found himself on the road touring full-time as his alter ego, Mark Twain. His first tour continued for over 30 weeks and included some 300 performances throughout the Midwest. Since then, Ron has completed 2,000-plus appearances in over half the states of the U.S.

A graduate of Belmont University in Nashville, Tennessee, with degree work in theatre, business, and English, Jewell has worked in dinner theatre, summer-stock, film, and trade and industrial shows.

Five years in New York City culminated in a partnership with a public relations firm specializing in marketing efforts for various entertainment and cultural arts clientele including Broadway and Off-Broadway theatres, dance companies, classical music performers, and visual artists. Returning to Memphis in the early 1980s, he continued his career as entertainment director for The Peabody Hotel followed by a 10-year stint as marketing director for the Memphis Symphony Orchestra. In 1994, Jewell was selected to develop and open the new Performing Arts and Conference Center for the city of Bartlett, Tennessee. As a result, Jewell was named to "Memphis" magazine's "Top 100 Who's Who in Memphis" for his work.

SAMUEL CLEMENTS - MARK TWAIN

Why is 2010 "The Year of Mark Twain"?

The Mark Twain House and Museum are recognizing 2010 as the Centennial Celebration of the anniversary of the death of Samuel Langhorne Clemens (a.k.a. Mark Twain). Born on November 30, 1835, in Florida, Missouri, Clemens was the sixth child of John Marshall and Jame Lampton. This year is also the 175th anniversary of his birth.

Where did he get the pseudonym, Mark Twain?

At 17, Clemens left Hannibal for a printer's job in St. Louis. While there, Clemens became a river pilot's apprentice and eventually a licensed river pilot. Clemens' pseudonym, Mark Twain, comes from his days as a riverboat pilot. It is a river term which means two fathoms or 12 feet of water depth for a boat being sounded. "Mark twain" means that it is safe to navigate.

What are Twain's most famous works?

Twain first gained fame for his story, "The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County," which appeared in the "New York Saturday Press" on November 18, 1865. His first book, "The Innocents Abroad," was published in 1869, followed by "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer" in 1876 and "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" in 1885. He wrote a total of 28 books and numerous short stories, letters, and sketches.

What did Twain do besides write?

In addition to being an author, Twain was a printer, river pilot, newspaper reporter, and editor.

What unusual events marked the birth and death of Mark Twain?

Halley's Comet appeared in 1835, the year of his birth, and again in 1910, the year of his death.

Where did Twain get his inspiration, and details, for many of his short stories and books, including "Roughing It"?

At the invitation of his brother, Twain headed west in 1861 with hopes of striking it rich in Nevada's silver rush. During this trip, he encountered Native American tribes and a variety of unique characters whose mishaps and disappointments found their way into his fiction. He had his own disappointment as he failed as a silver prospector but began writing under his pseudonym for a newspaper in Virginia City, Nevada.

NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE ARTS



BIG
READ